

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20510

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June 18, 2020

The Honorable Ajit Pai
Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street SW
Washington, DC 20554

Dear Chairman Pai:

We are pleased to write in strong support of Montgomery County, Maryland's application to the Federal Communications Commission for funding under the COVID-19 Telehealth program (OMB Control Number 3060-1271).

Montgomery County has worked as a direct health care provider and through public private partnerships with other healthcare providers to ensure that our most vulnerable populations have access to medical and mental health services. In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, Montgomery County must adapt the way it provides these services.

The County proposes to fund tablets and healthcare software for clinicians and low-income and disabled patients to use to provide health appointment, treatment, and visits through video conferencing instead of in person. A small amount of additional funding is being asked for software for deaf and blind telehealth service delivery, three months of Internet access for a few patients and headsets for privacy for patients living in group home settings. Montgomery County would further leverage this new equipment and internet connectivity to offer training on how to use telehealth services, access medical information online, and how to use online health monitoring tools that is funded through other public private partnerships.

We strongly support Montgomery County's application and urge you to give it full and favorable consideration.

Sincerely,

/s/ Benjamin L. Cardin
Benjamin L. Cardin
United States Senator

/s/ Chris Van Hollen
Chris Van Hollen
United States Senator

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20510

/s/ John P. Sarbanes

John P. Sarbanes
Member of Congress

/s/ Jamie Raskin

Jamie Raskin
Member of Congress

/s/ David Trone

David Trone
Member of Congress